

# Project Summary and Resource Determination Form – 20190221

## Uinta-Wasatch-Cache National Forest

### 1.0 Project Information

<b>Responsible Official has approved Project Proposal:</b> Yes	<b>Comment Due Date:</b> 10/10/2019
<b>Project Title:</b> Solitude Parking Lot and Administration Facility CE	
<b>Project Lead/Manager:</b> Ben Kraja	
<b>Applicant/Proponent (if applicable):</b> Solitude Mountain Resort	
<b>District(s) (Select all that apply):</b> Salt Lake Ranger District	
<b>General Location:</b> The proposed project is located at Solitude Mountain Resort, approximately 30 miles southwest of Salt Lake City, Utah.	
<b>Elevation Range (feet):</b> 8,200 feet	
<b>Legal Land Description:</b> Township 2 South, Range 3 East, Sections 22 and 27	
<b>County(s) (Select all that apply):</b> Salt Lake County, Utah	
<b>Project Map Included:</b> Yes	<b>GIS Shapefiles Included:</b> Yes
<b>Amount of new disturbance (acres):</b> ~ 1 acre (temp admin buildings)	
<b>Amount of previous disturbance (acres):</b> ~ 0.6 acre (parking area)	
<b>Amount of TOTAL disturbance (acres):</b> ~ 1.6 acres	
<b>Duration of Project:</b> Start and end during the summer 2020.	
<b>Management Prescription(s) (Select all that apply):</b> Management Prescription 4.5 Emphasis on Developed Recreation Areas	
<b>Type of NEPA (Select One):</b> Categorical Exclusion	
<b>If CE, list Category (select all that apply):</b> 36 CFR 220.6 (e) – “Approval, modification, or continuation of minor special uses on National Forest System lands that require less than five contiguous acres of land.”	

### 2.0 Project Summary

<b>Purpose and Need:</b>	<p>The proposed action is consistent with the direction of the 2003 Uinta-Wasatch-Cache National Forest Land and Resources Management Plan, which designates the Recreation Desired Future Conditions of the Central Wasatch Management Area. This includes direction specifying that “development and modifications at the resorts will continue to be designed to balance the comfortable carrying capacity within each resort, based on latest technologies, use patterns, and existing facilities, within the capabilities of the natural environment and transportation infrastructure.” The proposed parking lot project is consistent with this direction because it seeks to balance the comfortable carrying capacity of the resort by modifying the resort’s transportation infrastructure and parking availability. In addition, the Recreation Desired Future Conditions of the Central Wasatch Management Area state that “additional development within the [10-15 year horizon of this forest plan.] will generally involve the replacement and/or modification of existing facilities...” The proposed temporary administration facility project is consistent with this direction because it proposes to replace and modify an existing facility.</p>
<b>Proposed Action:</b>	<p>Solitude proposes to implement the following projects, which are located on private and National Forest System (NFS) lands. The proposed projects include the construction of a new parking area and a temporary administrative facility. Pending Forest Service approval, the proposed projects would be implemented in the summer of 2020.</p>

Solitude proposes to construct a new parking lot on private lands within their base area (refer to Parking Lot Route Proposal figure). To provide for guest/vehicular one-way circulation between an existing parking area and the planned parking area on private lands, Solitude would construct a one-way access road (approximately 200 linear feet) on the National Forest. This project is intended to improve circulation within the parking areas by removing steep grades and better allowing 2-wheel drive and low clearance vehicles to travel. In addition, Solitude proposes to expand an existing parking area on private lands onto the National Forest that would provide an additional 10 spaces and snow storage. Ground disturbance to previously disturbed areas would occur as would overstory vegetation removal, with a total disturbance footprint of approximately 0.6 acre on NFS lands. In this area Solitude will also construct trailhead parking for the future Silverfork trail system.

In addition to the parking area, Solitude proposes to construct temporary administration facilities in an approximately 31,000-square-foot area on private and NFS lands between Last Chance Lodge and the vehicle shop (refer to Temporary Buildings Concept figure). The project would require vegetation clearing and grading prior to construction, resulting in approximately 1 acre of disturbance on NFS lands. The proposed facilities would serve as staff support structures to house administrative functions of the resort. The temporary facilities would be modular construction and colored to match surrounding buildings. Upon removal of the modular buildings, the area would be reclaimed and revegetated or would be re-proposed to the Forest Service for permanent structures.

### **Required Design Criteria as per Resource Determinations:**

#### **General**

- Solitude will obtain appropriate state, county and city permits prior to the start of construction.
- Standard ski area BMPS will need to be employed during construction.

#### **Cultural Resources**

- If undocumented historic and/or prehistoric properties are located during ground disturbing activities or planning activities associated with approved construction activities, all construction in the immediate vicinity must cease and they will be treated as specified in 36 CFR §800.11 concerning Properties Discovered During Implementation of an Undertaking.

#### **Geology and Soils**

- Prior to approved construction activities on NFS lands, a grading or site plan will be submitted to the USFS and will contain quantitative/descriptive estimates of cut and fill volumes and storage location. Cut and fill will be used/redistributed on site.
- An erosion control plan would be submitted to the USFS and approved prior to implementation of the proposed project.
- Return slash and native organic litter to site, apply imported soil organic matter, and use soil fertility to restore site organic matter and nutrients to increase water holding capacity, soil productivity and success of revegetation.

#### **Watershed and Wetlands**

- No construction or maintenance activities shall be performed during periods when the soil is too wet to adequately support equipment/vehicles. If such equipment/vehicles create ruts in excess of 3 inches deep, the soil shall be deemed too wet to adequately support construction equipment/vehicles.
- For the slopes to be graded, filled, or re-contoured within the project area, define grading limits on the ground before construction by placing wattles, sediment fence, construction fence, or other physical barrier along the perimeter of the area to be graded. Ensure that all grading is confined within the specified grading limits and waterbars installed on appropriate slopes.
- Length of open trench at any given time to be minimized during snowmaking line install to prevent capture of overland flow during storm events. Final SWPP should be submitted for USFS review prior to construction. Division of Water Quality UPDES Construction Storm Water Permit will be required.

#### **Vegetation**

- Avoid disturbing or trampling native plant communities by flagging the area approved for disturbance and establishing formal paths where necessary.

#### **Noxious Weeds**

- Manage listed noxious weeds and other undesirable exotic species of plants. Pretreatment of existing infestations with approved herbicides within the project area should be conducted prior to project implementation. Herbicide choices and application rates for treatment are available from the District/Forest Weed Program Manager.
- Outside soils, mulch, and other material with potential to carry seed will not be used unless certified weed-free.
- Weed free equipment must be used for pretreatment with approved herbicides of infestations within the project area and along travel corridors. Ensure that prior to moving on to NFS lands all off-road equipment is free of soil, seeds, vegetative matter, or other debris that could contain or hold noxious weed seeds. "Off-road equipment" includes all construction machinery or off highway vehicles, except for trucks, service vehicles, water trucks, pickup trucks, cars, and similar vehicles.
- Apply chemicals using methods that minimize risk of entry to surface and ground water.

#### **Wildlife**

- All construction activities will be confined to daylight hours, excluding emergencies.
- All food waste and trash shall be removed from the project area daily.

#### **Scenery Resources**

- Vegetation will be retained surrounding the project site and revegetation would be planted to mitigate visual impacts of project disturbance.
- Minimize cut and fill at the transition of proposed grading and existing terrain.
- Temporary administrative buildings will require design and engineering review by the Forest Service. Plans must be reviewed and approved by the Forest Service.